

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Electromotive~~ An electromotive drive comprising an electric motor with a commutator (2) which is located in a motor housing, and also gearing which is flange-mounted on the electric motor, wherein a shaft (1) which is driven by the electric motor, passes through an opening (9) into an interior of a gearing housing (8), characterized in that a screening element (15, 15a) is fixed onto the shaft (1) to rotate with said shaft, and in that the screening element (15, 15a) completely or almost completely closes the opening (9) by means of a first section (17, 19) which is circular or cylindrical at the circumference.
2. (Currently Amended) ~~Drive~~ The electromotive drive according to Claim 1, characterized in that at least one control magnet (13) is provided on the shaft (1) within the gearing housing (8), which control magnet rotates with the shaft (1) and cooperates with at least one sensor (12) which is preferably arranged within the gearing housing (8).
3. (Currently Amended) ~~Drive~~ The electromotive drive according to Claim 1-~~or 2~~, characterized in that the first section (17, 19) extends into the opening (9).
4. (Currently Amended) ~~Drive~~ The electromotive drive according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that the first section (17, 19) closes the opening (9) up to an annular gap having a width which is much smaller than the diameter of the opening (9).

5. (Currently Amended) ~~Drive~~ The electromotive drive according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the shaft is the armature shaft (1) of the electric motor.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~Drive~~ The electromotive drive according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the shaft (1) is mounted in the gearing housing (8), and in that the corresponding bearing (10) is offset axially relative to the opening (9) which is screened off from the motor interior by means of the screening element (15, 15a).
7. (Currently Amended) ~~Drive~~ The electromotive drive according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the screening element (15, 15a) is at the same time a carrier or hub for the at least one control magnet (13).
8. (Currently Amended) ~~Drive~~ The electromotive drive according to ~~Claim~~ claim 7, characterized in that the at least one control magnet (13) is provided on the screening element (15, 15a) in a manner offset axially with respect to the first section (17, 19).
9. (Currently Amended) ~~Drive~~ The electromotive drive according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the at least one sensor (12) which cooperates with the control magnet (13) is provided on a board (11) which is accommodated in the gearing housing (8).
10. (Currently Amended) ~~Drive~~ The electromotive drive according to ~~any of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that the screening element (15, 15a) is a ~~moulded~~ molded part made of plastic.

11. (Currently Amended) Drive The electromotive drive according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that the screening element, in addition to the first section (17, 19), has at least one second section (14, 18) which is offset axially with respect to the first section, wherein the at least one control magnet (13) is arranged on said second section and/or said second section forms the at least one control magnet.
12. (Currently Amended) Drive The electromotive drive according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that the first and second section (18, 19) of the screening element (15a) directly adjoin one another.
13. (Currently Amended) Drive The electromotive drive according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that a sleeve-shaped section (16) which surrounds the shaft (1) is provided between the first section (17) and the second section (14).
14. (Currently Amended) Drive The electromotive drive according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that the screening element or the first section of this element forms part of the commutator (2).
15. (Currently Amended) Drive The electromotive drive according to any of the preceding claims claim 1, characterized in that the control magnet (13) forms the screening element.
16. (Currently Amended) Drive The electromotive drive according to Claim claim 15, characterized in that the control magnet (13) extends into the through-opening with at least part of its axial width.

17. (New) A screening element for use with an electric motor having a motor housing having a magnet and at least one sensor therein, said motor housing being capable of receiving gearing and comprising an opening through which a motor shaft having a commutator may pass; said screening element comprising:

 a first section fixed onto or integrally formed with said shaft and being generally circular or cylindrical at its circumference; and

 said first section becoming situated in operative relationship with said opening and being dimensioned to substantially close said opening when said shaft is received in said housing such that said first section becomes situated between said commutator and said at least one sensor.

18. (New) The screening element as recited in claim 17 wherein said screening element of said first section forms at least a part of said commutator.

19. (New) The screening element as recited in claim 17 wherein said screening element is defined by the magnet.

20. (New) The screening element as recited in claim 17 wherein said screening element is at least partially situated in said opening.